

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 27, 2020 – 10:30 AM

515 Court St. Portsmouth, Virginia 23704

www.fpcports.org (757) 397-3622

Order of Worship

Welcome and Call to Worship

We come to you in the midst of anxiety and uncertainty.

Come, Holy Spirit.

We come today following those who have given witness to the faith.

Come, Holy Spirit.

We come seeking a Word which will guide and strengthen us.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Let us worship God.

Prelude

“Morning”

arr. Martin

Invitation: The gift and obligation of unity is given and commanded by God for the Christian church. Together we confess that the one worldwide community of believers is not united.

Prayer of Confession: **Almighty God, we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance. We each have our hopes and expectations for what lies ahead, but only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we need. In life's uncertainties, assure us of Your unchanging love. In disappointing moments, help us turn to You for stability. In temptation, give us courage to humbly place our hands into Yours. In daily preoccupations, open our eyes to the sorrows of our hurting world that we might respond with compassion. By your grace, equip us to keep You as the center of our lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.**

Silent prayer of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness: By Christ's work, we are reconciled and united with God and with one another. Thanks be to God for the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

Doxology (Sung in our hearts)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayers of the People – Followed by the Lord's Prayer in Unison

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Special Music

“As the Deer”
John Hackworth, Trumpet

Nystrom

The Lesson

Luke 17:11-19

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

Sermon

“The Thank You Note”

Benediction

Postlude

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

arr. Pete Post

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Billy Ricketts – Pastor for Admin and Mission Outreach
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to this morning’s service of worship. Thank you for helping us maintain social distancing and a clean worship environment. Until the Corona Virus is no longer a health threat, we are participating in a more limited liturgy. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plate on the piano by the front Exit door. True worship is a gift of the Holy Spirit. God’s healing, forgiving power flows freely to those here and those online. Our prayer is the grace we experience and learn will be shared with our wider community.



Week of September 20th - Prayers of the People

All members and friends who are staying at home until the corona virus is contained.

- *Sonja Powell*
- *Paul Butler*
- *Penny Brangan*
- *Kathy Goolsby*
- *Lane Pittman*
- *A.T. and Nancy Mayo*
- *Bob and Judy Powell*
- *Al and Annette Crandall*
- *Frances Hasty*

Post-worship fellowship is online at www.fpcports.org Sunday afternoon.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Lyra Furman
4	Lou Wilhite
8	Sonia Powell
10	Bentley Breeden
10	Collin Taylor
15	Rudy Simpson
18	Rebecca Tanner
20	Karen Diggs
23	Alfred Fry
23	Patrice Winkler
24	C. C. Smith
28	Agnes McFadden
28	Dee Dee Straus
29	Roberta Stegall
30	Toni Rutsch

ⁱ *(Adapted from a prayer from Billy Graham, written in 2008 for “The Saturday Evening Post” in 2008 – From Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church worship liturgy.)*

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Celebrating Our 198th Year of Ministry

We are delighted to welcome you to the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. We are new and long-time residents, single adults, couples, black, white, Asian, LGBT, one and two parent families, military personnel, teens, and college students. Our faith traditions and stories are varied. What gathers us is God's inviting grace.

Our mission is to glorify God through joyful worship, hospitality, unceasing prayer, engaging study and acts of compassion. Our summer Peace, Love and a Bag of Chips needs volunteers to prepare 25 lunches (in their home) on August 30. Please let Oralie Wilhite at 757-319-5020 know of your interest.

Dr. Steve Frazier, was born in Seoul, Korea and raised in Washington State. He received his Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. He works full time for TowneBank as an insurance broker specializing in the senior adult market. He came to First Presbyterian in 2016 as our part-time Covenant Pastor. Steve and his wife, Nancy, have a blended family of three grown children and one grandchild.

Billy Ricketts, a lifelong Presbyterian, was baptized at Simonsdale Presbyterian, confirmed at Cradock Presbyterian Church and certified by The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary and Union Presbyterian Seminary. Billy has served First Presbyterian Norfolk, Second Presbyterian Norfolk and Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach. He retired from full-time ministry in 2020 and joined the staff of First Presbyterian Portsmouth as part-time Pastor for Administration and Outreach. Additionally, Pastor Ricketts is the Moderator of the Council of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia. Billy and his wife, Loretta, have two adult children.

Edna Broadhurst, our Director of Music Ministries, was baptized as an infant by her grandfather, Rev. H. Turner. Edna came to First Presbyterian Church in 1981 as the organist and choir director. She also teaches music at The Williams School in Ghent, Norfolk, teaches private piano/organ lessons, and sings with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus. She generously shares her musical talents. She holds a degree in Organ Performance from Old Dominion University and advanced studies from Appalachian State University and Westminster Choir College. She is married to Michael and they have a daughter, two grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

If you are looking for a church family, we believe First Presbyterian is a community where you can grow spiritually and share the life and gifts God has given to you. Covid19 has derailed some of our plans. Nonetheless, we are confident God has new adventures and opportunities in store to serve God and love our neighbors. For regular updates please visit our website: fpcports.org.

The Session

Dr. Steven E. Frazier – Moderator
Elder Kim McCormick - Clerk

Class of 2020

Paul Butler
Michael Broadhurst
Pat Sparks

Class of 2021

Oralie Wilhite
Stuart Shippey
Mary Ann Taylor

Class of 2022

Sue Faye
Kim McCormick
Todd Taylor